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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7811
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RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1954
RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 5045
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA 4265
RUEHNEH/AMCONSUL HYDERABAD 0899
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 2346
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 6271
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 2792
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI 9667
RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI 4084
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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: INDIA-CHINA, INDIA-NEPAL
RELATIONS, SWISS BANKING CONTROVERSY; NEW DELHI.

This countrywide cable reports on relevant media reaction/opinion from India's large non-English press. The Mission reports on English-language media via email through the daily "Early Edition" summary.

INDIA-CHINA

¶1. "BEWARE OF CHINA," editorial page article in August 24, centrist Hindi daily, NAI DUNIYA: "China has never been a friend of India. The Indian parliament once swore it will be get back every inch of land captured by China, but that intent was sacrificed at the altar of maintaining cordial relations with China. Slowly, but surely, China is consolidating its position on the border, but when India does the same China cries hoarse. Everybody knows who's arming Pakistan and North Korea. China loves to see India and Pakistan squabble. That's the kind of neighbor India has in China. We'd better keep a watch!"

INDIA-NEPAL RELATIONS

¶2. "IS NEPAL TILTING TOWARDS CHINA?" op-ed article in August 25 centrist Marathi daily, SAKAAL: "India is clearly and rightly concerned over China's increasing interest and influence in Nepal. India wants to engage Nepal, which explains the aid package, many times higher than China's, offered by India to Nepal.

However, India's leadership is worried that Nepal's Maoists will aid and incite insurgency in India's northeast, bordering Nepal. The Nepalese Maoists have always provided guerrilla training and weapons and logistical support to the Indian Naxalites. China has been pursuing its own agenda with Nepal. In what can be termed as 'a policy of encirclement' of India, China intends to treat Nepal as an anti-India hub."

13. "PROXIMITY WITH NEPAL A MUST," editorial page article in August 24 right-of-center Hindi daily, DAINIK JAGRAN: "India has a responsibility to preserve the non-Maoist government in Nepal. Unfortunately, Indian politicians are so consumed with internal affairs that they have been ignoring the cries for help from friends in Nepal. Nepal is strategically a hotspot - with the presence not only of the Pakistanis and Chinese, but also Bangladeshi subversives. Even the fake currency originating in Pakistan makes its way into India through Nepal. The situation beckons India to lend a helping hand to the non-Maoist powers in Nepal. India's lack of support could result in Nepal slipping into anarchy. "

SWISS BANKING CONTROVERSY

14. "INDIA NEEDS TO EXERT IMMENSE PRESSURE," editorial

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in August 25 right-of-center Gujarati daily, MUMBAI SAMACHAR: "With huge amounts of Indian black money parked with Swiss banks, it is now high time for India to start exerting pressure on the banks [Swiss government] to allow it bring that money back home. There is also the need to bring this issue to the notice of the United Nations and garner international support and create consensus on this vital question."
ROEMER